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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number | 09/978,551 |
| Filing Date | October 18, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Hirotaka NORO |
| Group Art Unit | 2151 |
| Examiner Name | Karen C. Tang |
| Attorney Docket Number | 0670-0269 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider any previously filed and unentered Amendments and Information Disclosure Statements, including the amendment(s)/reply and/or Information Disclosure Statement(s) previously filed on _____ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____

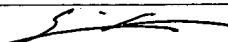
2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)
- b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

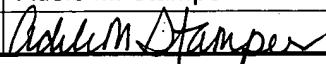
- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. _____
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Check in the amount of \$790.00 enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Eric J. Robinson | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 38,285 |
| Signature |  | Date | March 19, 2007 |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Name (Print/Type) | Adele M. Stamper |
| Signature |  |
| Date | March 19, 2007 |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS: SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

03/21/2007 CCNAU1
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FEE TRANSMITTAL FOR FY 2005

Effective 10/01/2004. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 790.00)

Complete if Known

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Application Number | 09/978,551 |
| Filing Date | October 18, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Hirotaka NORO |
| Examiner Name | Karen C. Tang |
| Group Art Unit | 2151 |
| Attorney Docket No. | 0670-0269 |

METHOD OF PAYMENT

1. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:

Deposit Account Number

50-2280

Deposit Account Name

Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office

- Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 and credit overpayments

- Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

2. Payment Enclosed:

- Check Credit Card Money Order Other

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

| Large Entity Fee Code | Small Entity Fee Code | Fee Description | Fee Paid |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| 1001 | 300 | 2001 150 Utility filing fee | |
| 1111 | 500 | 2111 250 Search fee | |
| 1311 | 200 | 2311 100 Examination fee | |
| Over 100 Sheets/250 for each additional 50 | | | |

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

| Total Claims | Extra Claims | Fee from below | Fee Paid |
|--------------------|--------------|---|----------|
| | -20** | = <input type="text"/> X \$50 = <input type="text"/> | |
| Independent Claims | -3** | = <input type="text"/> X \$200 = <input type="text"/> | |
| Multiple Dependent | | = <input type="text"/> | |

| Large Entity Fee Code | Small Entity Fee Code | Fee Description |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1202 | 50 | 2202 25 Claims in excess of 20 |
| 1201 | 200 | 2201 100 Independent claims in excess of 3 |
| 1203 | 360 | 2203 180 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid |
| 1204 | 200 | 2204 100 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent |
| 1205 | 50 | 2205 25 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent |

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

| Large Entity Fee Code | Small Entity Fee Code | Fee Description | Fee Paid |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|----------|
| 1051 | 130 | 2051 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath | |
| 1052 | 50 | 2052 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet | |
| 1053 | 130 | 1053 130 Non-English specification | |
| 1812 | 2,520 | 1812 2,520 For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination | |
| 1804 | 920* | 1804 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action | |
| 1805 | 1,840* | 1805 1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action | |
| 1251 | 120 | 2251 60 Extension for reply within first month | |
| 1252 | 450 | 2252 225 Extension for reply within second month | |
| 1253 | 1020 | 2253 510 Extension for reply within third month | |
| 1254 | 1,590 | 2254 795 Extension for reply within fourth month | |
| 1255 | 2,160 | 2255 1080 Extension for reply within fifth month | |
| 1401 | 500 | 2401 250 Notice of Appeal | |
| 1402 | 500 | 2402 250 Filing a brief in support of an appeal | |
| 1403 | 1000 | 2403 500 Request for oral hearing | |
| 1451 | 1,510 | 1451 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding | |
| 1452 | 500 | 2452 250- Petition to revive - unavoidable | |
| 1453 | 1,500 | 2453 750 Petition to revive - unintentional | |
| 1501 | 1,400 | 2501 700 Utility issue fee (or reissue) | |
| 1502 | 800 | 2502 400 Design issue fee | |
| 1503 | 1100 | 2503 550 Plant issue fee | |
| 1462 | 400 | 1462 400 Petitions, Group I | |
| 1463 | 200 | 1463 200 Petition, Group II | |
| 1464 | 130 | 1464 130 Petitions, Group III | |
| 1807 | 50 | 1807 50 Processing fee under 37 CR 1.17(q) | |
| 1806 | 180 | 1806 180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt | |
| 8021 | 40 | 8021 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) | |
| 1809 | 790 | 2809 395 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a)) | |
| 1810 | 790 | 2810 395 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.29(b)) | |
| 1801 | 790 | 2801 395 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) | \$790.00 |
| 1802 | 900 | 1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application | |

Other fee (specify) _____

* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 790.00)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 19, 2007.

Adam Stamps

SUBMITTED BY

Complete (if applicable)

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------|-----------|----------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Eric J. Robinson | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 38,285 | Telephone | (571) 434-6789 |
| Signature |  | | | Date | March 19, 2007 |